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ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.

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G. B. Airy, Esq., in the Chair.

Lieut. E. D. Ashe, R.N.,

was balloted for and duly elected a Fellow of the Society.

Discovery of a New Comet. By M. Klinkerfues.

On the morning of Dec. 2, M. Klinkerfues discovered a new comet in the constellation of *Perseus*. The time was too short to determine with certainty its position with respect to the neighbouring stars. The following is given by him as its approximate place:—

1853.	Göttingen M.T. h m s	R.A. h m s	Decl. ° ′ ″
Dec. 2	16 3 49·5	1 37 19·5	+51 36 37·6

M. Klinkerfues estimates the daily motion in right ascension at — 30′ of space, and the daily motion in declination at — 90′.

The following elements of this comet have been calculated by M. Klinkerfues:*—

T	1854, Jan. 9, 8251		
	°	′	″
π ……	53	22	54·6
λ ……	227	23	1·8
ι ……	66	46	24·0
Log *g* …	0·306940		

Retrograde.

Observations of Comet III., 1853. By W. Bradshaw, Esq., Master and Commander of H.M. Troop-ship, Resistance.

(*Extract of a Letter to Rear-Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort, dated Bathurst, Gambia, Oct.* 8, 1853.)

" Having during the passage of the Resistance from Port Royal to the Gambia observed a comet, no account of which was given in any of the newspapers seen by me at Jamaica, I beg leave to forward for your information the following observations made on board :—

" August 22d. In lat. 24° 50′ N., long. 73° 25′ W., apparent time at ship 7·25 p.m., observed a comet bearing W.N.W., the tail

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* Extracted from the circular of Professor Chevallier.

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extending E.S.E. 5° or 6°. Observed distance between the comet and *Benetnasch*, 34° 31′ 30″. Comet south of the star. Observed distance between the comet and *Arcturus*, 36° 30′ 0″. Comet north of the star.

"August 24th. In lat. 28° 29′ N., long. 71° 39′ W., apparent time at ship, $7^h\ 17^m\ 23^s$ p.m. Distance between the comet and *Benetnasch*, 37° 6 0″. Distance between the comet and *Arcturus*, 35° 52′ 30″. Altitude of comet, 11° 43′ 40″, computed R.A., 10° 43′ 41″, declination, 32° 10′ 10″ N.

"August 25th. In lat. 29° 55′ N., long. 70° 30′ 0″ W., apparent time at ship, $7^h\ 26^m\ 56^s$ p.m. Distance between the comet and *Benetnasch*, 36° 50′ 55″. Distance between the comet and *Arcturus*, 35° 42′ 10″. Altitude of comet, 9° 12′ 0″.

"August 26th. In lat. 31° 12′ 0″ N., long. 69° 36′ 0″ W., apparent time at ship, $7^h\ 25^m\ 15^s$. Distance between comet and *Benetnasch*, 38° 3′ 0″. Distance between comet and *Arcturus*, 35° 42′ 20″. Altitude of comet, 7° 46′ 4″.

"August 27th. In lat. 31° 48′ N., long. 68° 59′ 0″ W., apparent time at ship, $7^h\ 29^m\ 0^s$. Distance between comet and *Benetnasch*, 39° 25′ 0″. Distance between comet and *Arcturus*, 35° 52′ 50″. Altitude of comet, 7° 47′ 20″.

"The comet apparently travelling rapidly towards the sun. The nucleus much brighter, and the tail extending to the E.S.E., about 10° in length.

"The observation of the 27th was the last one taken on board, the comet not having been seen after that date.

"Since my arrival at the Gambia I have read some accounts of this comet; but the favourable circumstances under which my observations were made induce me to persist in my intention of submitting them to your notice."

Second Elements of Euterpe.

Computed from the observations made at Regent's Park, Nov. 8, at Durham and Hamburg, Nov. 28, and at Hamburg, Dec. 11, 1853, by Professor Chevallier and Mr. George Rümker.

Epoch Jan. 0·0, 1854, Greenwich Mean Time.

	° ′ ″	
M	348 53 31·5	
π	84 27 30·4	Mean Equinox at Epoch.
λ	93 30 14·5	
ι	1 36 24·0	
φ	9 21 24·7	
Log *a* ...	0·369656	
Log μ ...	2·995523	

These elements represent the middle observation, with an error (computed —observed) of —2″·7 in longitude, and 0″·0 in latitude.

They have been computed from the last available observations; the unfavourable state of the weather having prevented any observations of *Euterpe* from being made at Durham since December 3.

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